Never Sheathe the Sword Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's Fight to the Last!

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THOUGHT SITUATION IN JAPAN IS SOUND, DIET MEMBERS TOLD

Iwamura Warns, However, Prompt Action Will Be Taken Against Disturbers of Unity

The national ideological situation is quite sound and satisfactory, Justice Minister Michiyo Iwamura testified in the Provincial Assembly Members Bill Committee of the House of Representatives Thursday in reply to an interpellation of Yutaka Miyazawa, of Hiroshima, on the Government's convictions in regard to the thought problem.

The Justice Minister said:

"Proper restrictions over thought and vigorous action against thought crimes are quite indispensable for the achievement of the goal of the hallowed war. Fortunately, more than two years since the outbreak of the current war we find the domestic ideological situation quite unruffled and quiet. There has been nothing worth mentioning in regard to the Communist movement and the like since it was crushed some years ago.

Warns Against Foe Propaganda

"With the war situation stringent as it is, however, I should think that the enemy's propaganda intrigue will grow more brisk and virulent. We are thus doing our best not to let the people play into the hands of the enemy by showing any defect in their moral armor.

"In short, the ideological situation of our country now is absolutely quiet due to the tension and awakened state of mind of the people but if by any chance there should be perceived any word or action liable to impair the perfect unity of our war efforts we are prepared to take prompt and inexorable action against the offender."

In regard to the establishment of a headquarters for the guidance of the movement to rouse the nation for the decisive war, coordinating the efforts of the Government, Imperial Rule Assistance Association and Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, Home Minister Kisaburo Ando stated in the same committee that a liaison conference had been instituted for contact among the three parties, so that they may together decide on the general lines of policy to be followed by the national movement.

"Direct and indirect cooperation of the Imperial Rule Assistance and Assistance Political Associations will remain necessary even when the liaison conference is fully functioning," Home Minister Ando said. "We are proceeding with the movement in this wise because we think it the best method under the prevailing circumstances."

Bill Is Approved

The House of Representatives met in a plenary session at 1:07 p.m. and at once brought up 1943 Law No. 90 and Tokyo Metropolitan System Amendment Bill for prolonging the term of office of prefectural and municipal assemblymen. The chairman of the committee on the bill reported on the committee proceedings and the bill was passed as submitted. The House rose at 1:22 p.m.

The House of Peers held a plenary session from 2:05 p.m. Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo took the rostrum and made the same expression of the Government's determination to cope with the prevailing domestic and international problems as he had made in the plenary session of the House of Representatives the preceding day. The above amendment bill was then taken up and referred to a committee. The House adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

VESUVIUS LAVA FLOWING

3 Coastal Towns Menaced by Change in Course

Special

LISBON, March 22.—A report from Naples said that a shift in the lava flowing from erupting Mount Vesuvius was menacing three coastal towns harboring 86,000 people. The dispatch said that experts warned that the volcanic cone might burst any moment and bury the countryside under tons of molten rock.

Thousands of Italian civilians and refugees cluttered and jammed the roadways as they moved from the path of the fluid molten mass which engulfed their tiny villages, the dispatch disclosed. Hundreds of little farms were faced one by one with extinction by the ugly relentless lava flow.

Japanese Units Foil Foe Attempt to Raid Bougainville Island

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, March 23.—A unit of enemy planes, consisting of B-24's, B-25's and fighters, six in all, attempted a morning raid on the eastern tip of Bougainville Island on March 21. Counter-attacking them with furious anti-aircraft gunfire, the Japanese Units on the spot succeeded in beating all of them off. In retreating in confusion, two enemy medium-sized planes made a head-on collision, and fell after catching fire.

Yaluit Raiders Repulsed

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, March 23.—A formation of 14 enemy B-25 bombers attempted to attack Yaluit Island in the Marshall Group on the night of March 21. Giving immediate battle, the Japanese Forces stationed on the island without any damage on their part repulsed all the raiders.

REICH TROOPS TAKE POSTS IN HUNGARY

Entry Agreed by Two Countries In Implementation of Tripartite Alliance

Domei

BERLIN, March 22.—An advance of the Reich forces into Hungary was announced by the Hungarian Government today.

The announcement follows:

"In consequence of the agreement reached between the Governments of Germany and Hungary the German Forces have arrived in Hungary. The Cabinet headed by Dr. Nicholas de Kallay has resigned. Admiral Nicholas Horthy, the Regent, has entrusted Doeme Sztojay former Minister to Berlin, with the task of organizing a new Cabinet.

Names New Envoy

Domei

BERLIN, March 22.—Chancellor Adolf Hitler, at the proposal of Reich Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, has appointed Dr. Edmund Veehsenmayer as German Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Hungary, replacing Ambassador von Jagow who was recalled for service in the Reich Foreign Ministry.

For Joint War Effort

Special

BUDAPEST, March 22.—As the result of a mutual German-Hungarian understanding, Reich troops have entered Hungary to assist the latter country against the common enemy in the interest of the joint war conduct of the European nations linked by the Tri-partite Pact, particularly in order to effectively combat Bolshevism, the Hungarian news agency announced tonight.

The news agency also disclosed that in an official communique issued this afternoon, it was announced that in place of the former government which resigned, Regent Admiral Von Horthy has entrusted Doeme Sztojay, former Minister to Berlin, with the formation of a new government. The communique announced the formation of the new cabinet as follows:

Premier and Foreign Minister, Doeme Sztojay; Minister without Portfolio and Vice-Premier, Jenoe Racz; Minister of Interior, Andor Jaross; Minister of Finance, Lajos Remenyi-Schneller; Minister of Com-

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BATTLE FOR CASSINO CONTINUES TO RAGE IN GERMANY'S FAVOR

Reich Troops, Using Old Roman Tunnels, Attack Anti-Axis Forces From the Rear

Special

LISBON, March 22.—The terrific battle for Cassino continued to rage at the height of its fury with the positions of both sides apparently interlocked in the town and vicinity. German reports said that the anti-Axis forces continued to attack on Monday with utmost stubborness but that they were suffering tremendous losses and scoring no success.

Anti-Axis reports from Naples admitted that the New Zealanders were suffering heavily from the terrific German artillery fire. These reports said that reinforced German "Green Devil" paratroops opened powerful counter-attacks in Cassino strongly supported by planes and were throwing wave after wave of "almost magically produced" troops against the positions held by the New Zealanders.

A Reuter dispatch said that concentrated German artillery and mortar fire was pouring onto the town and that New Zealand troops were also fighting on the southern fringe of the town. The dispatch said that the artillery of the British fifth army was directed against the German hill positions but that certain German positions west of Cassino were difficult to neutralize because they were only some yards away from the positions occupied by the fifth army troops. The dispatch said that as a result of German thrusts and fifth army infilitrations the positions of both sides were interlocked.

Enemy Units Surrounded

Indicating that some fifth army units were encircled, the dispatch said that rations and ammunition were again dropped to "forward" fifth army troops yesterday.

The Reuter report further said that British troops made a "determined" attack on two German hill fortifications on Monday night but ran into a minefield and were stopped, whereupon the Germans blasted them out in a counter-attack, forcing the British to withdraw "in order to make secure their base." Another British attack also ran into strong opposition and was beaten back, the Reuter dispatch admitted. The dispatch added that New Zealand troops had started an attack on Monday night toward two points southwest of the town but were meeting powerful opposition. The dispatch said that the battle was a hammer and tong affair with no quarter asked or given.

Other anti-Axis reports said that terrific German attacks were going on against New Zealand positions on Castle Hill just north of Cassino. They said that "in face of point-blank" fire the Germans continued to hammer at the rocky slope. West of the Cassino railway station, too, the Germans were fighting vigorously—anti-Axis reports describing the locality as "another strong knot of German resistance." The Germans were reported to be sending out heavy mortar barrages from the old Roman amphitheater near there. These reports said that the Germans carried out their biggest air operations of the week, heavily attacking a highway east of Cassino and Cervaro, farther east.

One anti-Axis report from Naples attributed the unsatisfactory development of the anti-Axis attack on Cassino to the advantage the Germans had in being able to send reinforcements through the ancient

(Continued on Page 2 Col 5)

Azad Hind Units' Entry Into India Seen as Dawn of Indian Freedom

Crossing of the Border Is Signal for Rest of India to Rise Up Against the British, Says Thakin Aung San, Burmese Defense Minister

Special

RANGOON, March 22.—"That's the news I have been waiting for," declared Major-General Thakin Aung San, Burmese Defense Minister, when he was informed that the Provisional Government of Free India had issued a proclamation announcing that the Azad Hind Fauj has crossed the Indo-Burma border into India.

Major-General Thakin Aung San declared that the latest development signifies the last lap of the struggle for Indian independence.

"The carrying of the battle of the forces of the Indian National Army into the soil of India means the dawn of Indian independence," he said, adding, "that action should be a bright signal to the rest of India to rise up and revolt against British tyranny and win Indian freedom."

Continuing, the Burmese Defense Minister said that the British will be unable to wholly camouflage the setbacks and, as the truth infiltrates among the Indian populace, the Indian struggle for freedom will be given greater impetus.

He recalled that it was less than two months ago since the historic announcement was made that the Azad Hind Fauj had participated in its initial battle for Indian freedom, which culminated in the second Arakan tragedy enacted in the Sinzeiwwa basin with the destruction of the enemy's 17th Division.

"For the Burmese, this, indeed, must be happy news," the Burmese Defense Minister said, "for the advance of the Indian forces onto Indian soil means further setbacks to the enemy's contemplated counter-offensive to retake Burma."

He added: "That does not mean that the Burmese will cease their war efforts to bring the war to a successful conclusion—on the contrary, the Burmese now have much more reason to prosecute the War of Greater East Asia to victory, namely, Indian independence."

"The cooperation of the Burmese both with the Indian National Army and the Japanese Forces will continue until the Anglo-Americans are completely driven out of East Asia," Major-General Thakin Aung San said in emphasizing the completeness of the military cooperation among the Azad Hind Fauj, Burmese and Japanese Forces.

Continuing, he said that while the three ground forces, in common kinship and camaraderie are battling toward the common goal, intimate contact is being maintained by the newly created liaison conferences.

The Burmese Defense Minister then took the occasion to stress that every Burmese has the conviction that the freedom of Burma will not be complete without a free India, and that the freedom and security of East Asia will not be complete and secure without a free India.

In conclusion, he declared that the dynamic qualities and leadership of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose are well known and do not need reiteration, but nevertheless, the advance of the Indian National Army onto Indian soil again offers a concrete example of the inspired leadership under which the Indian independence struggle is moving forward toward fruition.

ANTI-AXIS TO HOLD TALKS ON CHARTER

'Changing War Setup' Necessitates Consultations, Churchill Declares

Special

LISBON, March 22.—Prime Minister Churchill, in a speech in the House of Commons today, suggested that the principal anti-Axis allies would have to renew their consultations on the Atlantic Charter, according to a London dispatch.

Churchill said that there will soon be another meeting of principal allies for consultations in view of what he described as "changing conditions" in the war. The Prime Minister added that the conference will discuss the Atlantic Charter in the light of the "present war conditions." However, he did not say whether the new conference would be another meeting of President Roosevelt, Premier Stalin and himself.

Foreign Secretary Eden also spoke in the House of Commons, and reviewed the Soviet Union's failure to consult with Britain before recognizing the Badoglio regime. Eden said that the British Government did not intend to change the present status of its relations with the Badoglio Government.

In reply to the question whether the Soviet Union had expressed its disapproval of matters as they now stood in Italy, Eden said that the inquirers should direct their questions to the Soviet Government.

Eden asserted that the Italian campaign is being fought solely by Britain and the United States, and that the British and American Governments are the sole signatories of the provisional agreement with the Badoglio Government. The Soviet Government was naturally represented in the consultative committee for Italy, he said, but the Soviets did not let it be known then that they were dissatisfied.

Charter Debate Ends

Special

ZURICH, March 22.—The debate in the British House of Commons on the interpretation of the Atlantic Charter is regarded as having come to an end for the time being, according to the London correspondent of Neus Zuericher Zeitung.

The Labor party, which had abstained from making any foreign political statement for many months, is said to be preparing one now for their party convention.

AUSTRALIA REFUSES TO ASSIST BRITAIN

Public Told to Burn Their Food Coupons If They Wish to Send More Food to British

Special

LISBON, March 22.—The Australian Government does not intend to intensify the degree of food rationing now in operation in order to make additional shipments to Britain, it was disclosed in a Canberra dispatch.

This view was indicated in the Senate today by Minister of Customs Senator Richard Valentine Keane, who also administers food rationing in Australia. Senator Keane's statement was the Government's reply to a move made by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne who called a public meeting to discuss the need for more stringent meat rationing in Australia in order to give further help to the people of Great Britain. The Government regarded the move by the Premier of Victoria as purely political and not a genuine attempt to give further aid to the British people in the way of food.

Senator Keane declaring that those people who were anxious to assist the United Kingdom could do so by destroying their food coupons. If this was done, then food will be at the disposal of the Government for shipment to England, he said, thus achieving the same results although not in a spectacular manner. The Government was asked by another Labor, Senator Stanley Kerin Amour, to inform the Lord Mayor of Melbourne that they are rendering great disservice to the people of great Britain by attempting to create an impression that Australia had not yet done and was not doing everything possible to help them in their difficulties.

Food Debate Prohibited

Special

LISBON, March 22.—Opposition leader Senator George Mcleay, today, presented a petition signed by nearly 7,000 electors in his state in south Australia urging that a larger proportion of Australian food, especially meat and butter, should be sent to Britain, according to a dispatch from Sydney.

Mcleay, however, was not permitted to hold a debate on the subject, the Senate simply ordering it to be printed. Later, the Senator said that although Britain was crying for more food, Australia's food production was falling down on the job through ineffectual handling of the manpower problem. "Surely," he declared, "with a comparatively small number of Australian troops actually engaged in operations many

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Amery's Policy Will Cause Worse Famine In India Than 1943, Says London Weekly

Special

LISBON, March 22.—A recent report in the London weekly, Cavalcade, said that responsible Indian opinion feared that 1944 might bring a worse famine than 1943. The report said that because the British-Indian Government had refused to assume complete price control during the famine the majority of the peasants had to mortgage their holdings to live and that now they had to sell their entire harvest to cover their obligations with the result that they were unable to hold any reserves. Significantly, the weekly said that if the crop should fail this year the consequences would be disastrous.

Referring to the statement made by British Secretary of State for India Leopold Amery in the Commons in January that the abnormal mortality in India due to famine and disease during the last five months of 1943 did not exceed 1,000,000, the Cavalcade remarked, "A mere million disregarding an odd hundred thousand either way. It is this kind of off-hand officialism that so endears us to the Indian people. Indian calculations put famine deaths during 1943 at 5,000,000."

The weekly added that in parts of Bengal nearly half the population was suffering from cholera and malaria. The journal quoted Major-General Stewart, Bengal garrison commander as saying that malaria was five to six times more prevalent than normally and that during a recent tour he found that there was hardly a homestead which had not lost some member due to malaria.

CHATTERJI IS NAMED FOR ADMINISTRATION OF AZAD HIND AREAS

Netaji Decides on Appointment Of Finance Chief of Free India Regime to New Post

Domei

SHONAN, March 23.—Anil Chandra Chatterji, Finance Minister of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, on March 20, was appointed Chief Civil Administrator in Free India after the entry of the Indian National Army into Indian territory, according to information received by the Indian Independence League here.

The appointment was decided upon at a conference held at 10 p.m. on March 20 at the official residence at a military base in Burma of Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government and concurrently Commander-in-Chief of the Indian National Army, to discuss various measures to be taken after the advance of the Indian National Army into India.

Born in Lahore, Punjab Province, in December of 1891, Mr. Chatterji is a graduate of Calcutta University. He participated in the last World War as a military surgeon. In 1925, he joined the Pathological Department of the Indian Army as the first Indian to enter the organ.

From 1932 till 1936, he served as Chief of the Hygienic Bureaus of Delhi and Bengal Province and was professor of hygienics at Calcutta and other Universities from 1939 to 1941. With the establishment of the Indian Independence League he became its Secretary-General. He assumed the Finance portfolio in the Provisional Government of Azad Hind when it was established in October of last year.

Mr. Chatterji is 54 years old and is a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Indian National Army.

Five Principles Given

Domei

SOMEWHERE IN BURMA, March 22.—The epoch-making statement issued yesterday by Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army, contained five principles to be adhered to by Indians in their last war for Indian independence.

They are: 1. All-out assistance, directly and indirectly, must be offered to the Indian National Army, which in conjunction with the Imperial Japanese Army is fighting for the liberation of India.

2. All Indian men, women, children, brothers and sisters who love their motherland should render voluntary service in order that Indian independence may be attained.

3. All Indians by means of systematic sabotage should hinder Anglo-American war efforts and thus contribute toward the success of the fight for freedom.

4. Indian officers and men in the British Army must refuse to fight for absolute monarchy and on their own initiative join the camp of the liberation army.

5. Indian officials employed by the British Government should give positive assistance for the cause of Independence.

The statement issued yesterday by Subhas Chandra Bose is as symbolic as the resolution adopted by the Indian National Congress meeting at Bombay in August, 1942, at which Mahatma Gandhi demanded British withdrawal from India and began a disobedience movement.

It is recalled that the meeting adopted five-point resolution in order to carry out the disobedience

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Swift Nippon Drives On Indo-Burma Front Shock Indian Masses

Domei

CANTON, March 22.—The offensive operations of the Japanese Forces in the central Indo-Burmese border are producing a grave shock on the masses of people in India. There are rapidly increasing signs of this, one such being that the situation growing out of the advance of the Japanese Forces in their march on India came up for discussion in the Central Assembly, according to an Indian broadcast. The agreed view of the members which found vigorous expression in the debate, was that in the light of the certainty of a Japanese attack, the Government must swiftly adopt measures for the evacuation to safer zones of the inhabitants in the danger areas, taking into account the possibilities of air, land and sea attacks in the planning of these measures. Extreme tension prevailed throughout the deliberations.

FOE ADMITS ENTRY OF JAPANESE UNITS

Mountbatten and Auchinleck Warn Against Further Penetration Into India

Domei

LISBON, March 22.—The anti-Axis headquarters in Southeastern Asia, in a communique issued today, announced that the Japanese Forces which had started offensive operations along the Chindwin River have continued their advance in the mountainous areas and have crossed the frontier into Manipur Province at one or two points, it is reported from New Delhi.

Manipur is situated in the southern part of Assam Province and its most important district. It is 8,620 square miles and has a population of about 500,000 of which 58 per cent are Hindus. Rice is its main product.

Stubborn Attack Launched

Domei

LISBON, March 22.—The Japanese Forces launched a stubborn attack in the Maungdaw and Buthidaung areas, the Headquarters of the anti-Axis forces in Southeastern Asia announced in its communique issued today, according to a New Delhi dispatch reaching here.

Advance Admitted

Domei

LISBON, March 22.—In its communique today, the headquarters of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten admitted the advance of the Japanese Forces into Indian territory, according to a New Delhi dispatch reaching here.

Fearful of the influence on the Indian masses who are now being permeated with the anti-British sentiment, the Mountbatten headquarters is striving to discount the situation, using such ambiguous description as "raiding parties" in expressing the strength of the Japanese Army.

According to a dispatch sent by an A.P. correspondent in New Delhi, the Japanese troops, taking advantage of the night darkness, crossed the Chindwin River and, without any resistance, marched into Indian territory through the jungles.

It is further reported that the Japanese Forces are continuing their drive toward India over the genuine route which was taken by the British army led by General Sir

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Stilwell Sends Reinforcements by Glider, In Desperate Attempt to Save Situation

By sending reinforcements by air to the firing lines in the Chin Hills area the American forces under Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Forces in China, Burma and India, have been desperately trying to stave off further defeats, states the Asahi.

Correctly gauging the time to strike, the Japanese Forces, in conjunction with the Indian National Army completely trapped the enemy's 17th Division in a net of fire and steel, resulting in its practical annihilation. The remnants are now falling back behind the Manipur River fleeing toward India in utter confusion.

The brilliant thrust of the Indian National Army has intensified the feeling of the Indian masses and the sepoys against the British. The anti-Axis failure in Burma has also reduced Chungking to despair. In a last-minute attempt to save the situation Stilwell has been sending reinforcements by gliders to the northern Indo-Burmese border since the beginning of March.

Thus, by making use of reinforcements by glider the enemy is designing to attack the Japanese Forces from the rear while diverting the Japanese operations in the Chin Hills and, at the same time completing the Ledo Road which was started in December last year under American supervision. But the Japanese Forces are now poised to annihilate the air-borne enemy reinforcements.

NIPPON UNITS START OFFENSIVE ON TIDIM FOR WIPING OUT FOE

Attacks Launched by Contingents Which Took Kenede Peak And Those From Tonzan

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON BURMA FRONT, March 21.—The Sakae, Shibata, Iso and Tamura Units of the Imperial Japanese Forces which had occupied the Kenede Peak fortress by daring closing-in operations started vigorous attacks on the Demulo position in front of Tidim, main enemy stronghold, on the night of March 18 for the purpose of completely annihilating the enemy remnants in the vicinity of Tidim. Meanwhile other Japanese Units launched offensive operations against Tidim, on the morning of March 19 from the direction of Tonzan.

By C. HOSHIYASU
Of the Military Press Corps

AT AN X X BASE ON THE BURMA FRONT.—The Japanese Army in the Burma area has secured a magnificent victory over the enemy upon whom heavy damage has been inflicted and the Imperial Forces are now advancing into India with the crack units of the Indian National Army.

With the fall of Tonzan on March 20, the enemy's 17th Division became literally exposed to an imminent danger of encirclement and annihilation. Some 10,000 officers and men of the defeated division are drawing nearer and nearer the brink of death.

On the other hand, in the Maungdaw and Buthidaung areas on the southern Indo-Burmese border, the Japanese are developing a mastery strategic movement against the counter-offensive planning enemy. With the strategic initiative in Japanese hands, the enemy is falling into a state of complete paralysis.

Brilliant Victory Secured

The Japanese, who in the fall of last year occupied Haka, Hiaram and Fort White, concentrated their main force at Fort White and X X and began their encirclement and annihilation campaign at daybreak on March 8 against the enemy's 17th Division stirring in the Tidim and Tonzan areas. The Irie, Matsuki and Nakatani Units crossed the Manipur River at a point south of Fort White in strict secrecy and made a detour to a point three kilometers west of Tidim on March 14. On the following day they cut off the retreat of the enemy at a point four kilometers west of Tonzan and advanced north for an attack on Fort Shingel, where they secured a brilliant victory by crushing the enemy.

The Ogawa, Okamoto, Ueda and Taniguchi Units which commenced their operations from X X, passed through Shaltawa, Myinbir and Sekun and by sundown on March 13 they had arrived at a point south of Tonzan. The following day they set up their artillery positions at Fort Baitz, two kilometers in front of Tonzan, and on the 5646 and 6373 meter hills to the west of Tonzan. Then they began their attack.

The Sunakoda Unit, with the cooperation of the Miyauchi Unit, cut off the enemy's retreat on the Tonzan-Shuganu Road at Lenikot on March 16, thus preventing the enemy's 20th Division from sending reinforcements. In this way they completely surrounded Tonzan.

From about March 18 the enemy began to lose heart and they broke and fled from their positions. Thus on March 20, the enemy positions on Chin Hills fell into Japanese hands.

Meanwhile, the Yajiri Unit which began a frontal attack on the enemy at Kenede Peak and Tidim advanced under cover of X X guns and heavy guns, breaking through Kenede Peak on March 16 and is now moving irresistibly toward Timuro.

The enemy who had lost Tonzan to the rear was now caught in a trap set by the Japanese and is now attempting to flee across the Manipur River. The numerous troops of the 17th Division who have been intercepted by the Irie, Matsuki and Nakatani Units are now about to be destroyed to a man on Chin Hills. Also the enemy that has come out to the Buthidaung and Maungdaw areas in a force of two divisions has been struck by the Japanese lightning warfare at every point and is on the verge of annihilation. The enemy is proceeding southward

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Press Comments

Thursday, March 23

ADVANCE OF INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY

YOMIURI-HOCHI—Combination of aid from the outside and armed organization of India herself—that is the key to the breaking off of the chains binding the 400,000,000 people of India. Such has been the credo of Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army, ever since June last year when he made his first speech on the subject. Now this combination has been splendidly achieved and the Indian National Army, shoulder to shoulder with the indomitable Japanese Forces, has effected a break-through across the Indo-Burmese border into Indian territory. Thus it has begun its march of the century upon Delhi.

In departing on this hallowed mission, the Netaj issued a statement urging the people of India and sepoys to rise against their oppressors. Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo reiterated in the Diet the Government's resolve to give unstinted aid to the fighters for Indian independence. The joy of the 1,000,000,000 peoples of Greater East Asia who are convinced that the independence of India is closely linked with the liberation of East Asia can well be imagined.

The fierce war in the Pacific area, the advance of the Indian National Army and the unprecedented famine are all exercising far-reaching effects on the political situation in India. Even the fragmentary information slipping through the rigid censorship of the British Empire shows that India, the treasure house of the Empire, is being shaken to her foundations. Some of the indications of this are: the Muslim League which was believed considered to be a puppet by the British Empire has begun to join forces with the National Congress, breaking through the divide and rule intrigue of the British; the Indian Central Legislature which met for four days from March 13 until 16 went into a riot, something it had rarely done, and made no attempt to disguise its anti-British sentiments, and the last shred of hope among the Indian people in the sincerity of the British Empire in its avowals of benevolent intentions toward India has snapped because of the inhuman attitude shown by the Indian Government toward Mrs. Gandhi, wife of the Mahatma, for whose death it is responsible.

The tyrannical attitude which London has maintained in regard to the Indian independence movement and the famine in India can be gauged by an attack on the Government made by Britishers themselves, as for instance by Mr. Cove, a Laborite, in the House of Commons as well as by Americans, cooperators in the oppression of India. For instance, Mr. MacCormick of the Chicago Tribune, told Lord Halifax that compared with British actions in India, American gangsterism was far more humane, thereby giving rise to an issue.

The strategic position of India at the present moment is profoundly interlinked with the Pacific war situation, and has the greatest bearing on the success or failure of the continental aggressions of Anglo-American imperialism, their counter-offensive route to Japan. India, thus, is militarily connected with Japan's decisive war with the United States and Britain by land. The march of the Indian National Army on Delhi with the support of the Japanese, therefore, bears the historic significance of destroying the material basis of the British Empire and at the same time the strategic significance of blocking the Anglo-American land route toward Japan.

As Prime Minister Tojo says, the future of the Indian liberation movement will not be an easy one by any means. Militarily and politically it will be full of thorny paths. But the first step has been made and that counts. The Indian National Army has crossed the Rubicon. Victory will be won by the unflinching marcher. Such is our message to our ally, Netaji Bose.

FAILURE OF BASIC ANGLO-AMERICAN STRATEGY

TOKYO SHIMBUN—The basic Anglo-American strategy in the European theater of war has been to make use of the anti-Axis nations on the Continent so as to make them fight the Germans and Italians without themselves making much sacrifice and enjoying all the fruits of victory. Poland, France and other nations of Europe have been sacrificed to this crafty scheme. As a result, the greater part of Europe has fallen within the Axis sphere of influence, and now there remains only the Soviet Union fighting the Germans in Eastern Europe. It is not to be imagined that the Kremlin leaders, who are thoroughly acquainted with the ins and outs of international politics, are merely being made use of by the United States and Britain. It happens that the struggle of the Soviets with the Germans is freezing quite a portion of the crack units of the Germans on the Eastern Front and this is no doubt greatly profiting the United States and Britain, but the realistic statesman Premier Josef Stalin cannot be unaware of the crafty scheme of the British and Americans and it is hardly to be supposed that the Soviets are pulling the chestnut out of the fire for them.

The Soviet-Polish border issue, the "Tito" regime issue, the Badoglio regime recognition issue and the like all indicate that the Soviet war is entirely separate and distinct from the war which the United States and Britain are fighting. The Machiavellian scheme of making as much use of the Red Army as possible has been completely frustrated by the Kremlin in these series of coups that the Soviets have made. Knowing fully well that the Americans and British cannot pit themselves against the armed might of Germany without the aid of the Red Army, the Kremlin is brandishing its trump card, the demand for a second front, and while Roosevelt and Churchill are wavering, is steadily pushing its diplomatic and political offensives and strengthening its own position. The Soviets are perfectly justified in making the second front demand because the Red Army, to date, as Premier Stalin says, is making the sacrifice of officers and men on the Eastern Front at a daily rate equivalent to the yearly rate of the Americans and British. Thus, the Anglo-American camp could not help yielding to the Soviets to some extent.

Recent developments, however, have ruined the basic strategy of the Americans and British. If they are merely to blind-bomb open cities and persecute neutral nations, they will be compelled to acknowledge the voice of the Soviet Union in European affairs to an ever-increasing extent. But if they are to prevent this, they must undertake the perilous adventure of a second front. How perilous, the Americans and British know from their experience on the southern Italian front. On the other hand, the Germans are waiting for them to undertake it as the finest opportunity in which to crush the Anglo-American fighting strength at a stroke. The Americans and British have the experience of landing in French North Africa and Sicily but on each occasion their operations were greatly facilitated by the traitors working in league with them from the inside. Today, they must face the Grand Fortress of Europe, the vast Atlantic defense, and the crack, seasoned and well-tried German troops. As the Americans and British can no longer continue their moratorium on their heavy, mounting debts, it is obvious that they must act now, but it is questionable whether they have the courage to tackle such a formidable proposition.

STRENGTH OF FAMILY SYSTEM

MAINICHI—The family system of Japan has shown its inherent strength both in peace and war. When the United States and Britain, which boasted of being "have nations," were burdened with serious unemployment problems due to the depression following the first World War, Japan was able to solve her unemployment question by dint of her family system.

The protection and relief of the families of war dead and of soldiers sent to the firing line, which constitutes a source of worry in foreign countries during wartime, is being smoothly carried out in Japan, and this success is believed to be due largely to the spirit of the family system peculiar to this country.

This family system, and the traditional spirit that gives vital stimulation to it, have revealed their respective strengths ever since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

As the war situation intensifies, the spirit of the family system grows stronger. That is to say, with the increase of restraint on living conditions, the family spirit among the people becomes stronger. Fully recognizing this fact, the Government has been utilizing the spiritual strength of the nation to bolster the internal structure.

Historically speaking, the spirit imbuing our family system is closely related to the great spirit of the Empire's founding, and thus it is indestructible. Therefore, those who think that the employment of women outside of their homes will prove harmful to the family system should take into consideration the above-mentioned facts and be assured that nothing can disturb our family system.

123 Die in Rome Raids

Special

ROME, March 22.—During the heavy anti-Axis air attack on Rome on March 18, 100 persons lost their lives, according to reports from that city. During the anti-Axis raid on March 20, the citizens of Rome suffered casualties amounting to 23 dead and 30 wounded. Among whom was the Bishop of Anagni.

dead and 30 wounded, among whom

WAVE OF INFLATION RISING IN AMERICA

Considerable Pressure on National Economy Caused by Enormous War Burden

By Arrangement With the Asahi

BERNE, March 22.—With the vast war burden of the United States beginning to cause considerable pressure on national economy, the wave of inflation is gradually rising. The annual report of the International Settlement Bank, made public here recently, has supplied some comparatively accurate material on the economic condition of the United States. Some facts revealed by this report are briefly as follows:

When the average production index of the United States in the five years from 1935 to 1939 is taken as 100, it rose to 160 in May, 1941, to 177 in June, 1942 and to 203 in June, 1943. In the same period, the production of long-term consumption goods followed the general production trend and its indices were 198, 246, and 303, respectively at the above-mentioned periods. On the other hand, the production of short-term consumption goods showed no notable increase and remained almost stationary with indices of 138 and 147.

This development was due to the fact that since the autumn of 1941, the production of consumption goods for the general public was restricted, and all facilities for constructing dwelling houses, producing motorcars, refrigerators, radio receiving sets, furniture, and other long-term consumption goods were turned over entirely to the manufacture of heavy artillery pieces, tanks, airplanes, ships, etc.

There are three important points to be noted in the movement of production indices—first, the decline of the mineral production index to 131 and 121, despite the advance of the total production index; second, the fact that the production of war requirement goods reached its limit in the first half of 1943; and third, up to the spring of 1943 about two-thirds of the entire manufacturing industry had been transformed into the production of war requirement goods.

War Requirements Rise

Before the outbreak of the war, war requirements took up only 1.6 per cent of the total manufacturing output, but it rose to 32 per cent during 1942 and the report estimates that in 1943 it reached about one-half of the national production. Even in 1918, the last year of World War I, the rate was about 25 per cent. Thus about one-half of the national production was taken away from the people, causing the present inflation. Furthermore, this signal expansion of war goods production was caused by the free exportation of war goods under the Lend-Lease Act.

The ordinary exports of the United States have been declining recently, while Lend-Lease exports which received no payment, have been rapidly increasing, reaching $16,600,000,000 by the end of September 1943. Against the ordinary exports of $3,100,000,000 in 1942, the non-payment exportation under the Lend-Lease Act reached $4,800,000,000 the same year. In 1943 the ordinary exportation was stationary or even declined, while the non-payment Lend-Lease exportation advanced to $12,000,0000,000.

This naturally affected imports. Already in 1942, imports were only $2,700,000,000 as against exports of $7,300,000,000. The decline in imports was due to the loss of resources in East Asia, the shortage of shipping bottoms, and the decrease of imports, particularly from South America. This decline in imports and the large increase of non-payment exports brought pressure on the resources of the United States.

Thus, as the report of the International Settlement Bank states, the total production limit of the United States that was reached last year was not simply due to the limited labor supply, but also to the difficulty in importing foreign materials. It was also due to the stationary production of minerals or the limit of domestic resources.

Though imports have been much restricted, the outflow of gold from the United States was very great during 1943. This appears very strange, but it is believed that the United States was unable to export sufficient goods to South America to pay for even the limited imports from that region.

Only the non-payment exports under the Lend-Lease Act have increased, and this surplus non-payment exportation reveals one phase of the recent credit expansion and inflation tendency in the United States.

Envoy Lu Back in Nanking

Domei

NANKING, March 22.—Lu Yung-hua, Manchoukuo Ambassador to Nanking, returned to his post here today after visiting Hsinking where he conferred with leaders of the home Government.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

March 22

The Red Army made several unsuccessful attacks in the lower reaches of the Bug in the Ukraine. In a counter-attack launched by the Germans, a Soviet bridgehead was further narrowed down. Between the middle reaches of the Bug and the Dniester, heavy fighting with powerful Soviet forces is continuing. Numerous Red Army attacks were repulsed, with the Soviet suffering heavy losses. The town of Smerinka was evacuated according to schedule.

Between Proskurov and Tarnopol, the Soviets launched fresh attacks with strong infantry and tank formations. In these battles, the Soviets lost 33 tanks.

In the Bordy area, too, the Germans engaged the Soviets in hard fighting. The defenders at Novel repulsed several enemy attacks.

Southeast of Vitebsk, the Soviets resumed their attempts to break through the Reich lines, but they were repulsed. One dent, made by the attackers, was sealed off.

On the Kandalaksha front, Hessian grenadiers repulsed the attacks launched by two Soviet rifle regiments and inflicted heavy losses on the attackers. On the Murman front, Reich troops from the Ostmark stormed a Red Army position and wiped out its occupants.

In Italy, the anti-Axis forces yesterday stubbornly continued their unsuccessful attacks against Cassino, suffering heavy losses.

German long-range guns shelled the Nettuno and Anzio harbor areas and scored a hit on one enemy freighter. Reich naval guns on the Adriatic coast shelled two enemy destroyers off San Griorgio, forcing them to change their course after one of them had been set ablaze.

Anti-Axis raiders last night attacked places in the Rhenish-Westphalan area.

Meanwhile, another large-scale attack by heavy German bomber formations on London caused extensive fires and conflagrations.

British artillery units unsuccessfully bombarded a German convoy in the English Channel. The long-range guns of the German forces, thereupon, shelled Dover with good effect.

Nippon Units Start Offensive on Tidim For Wiping Out Foe

(Continued From Page 1)

down the River Naaf in boats and is landing at various points for its last resistance but the Japanese on positions of great advantage near Buthidaung and the Mayu Mountains are only tightening the mouth of the trap.

West Africans Routed

The 81st Division of the West Africans that came out to Kaladaung has also been routed by the quick-striking Japanese and is fleeing in the direction of X X, an important point on the border.

The Japanese campaign against the enemy forces attempting to deliver a counter-offensive from Chin Hills and Arakan has progressed in a perfectly one-sided manner. Admitting defeat in these areas, the enemy is maintaining studied silence on developments there, merely reporting that a powerful force of the Japanese has crossed the Chindwin River and has begun advancing toward the border.

The Irie, Nakatani, Sueki and Sunakoda Units which captured Tonzan have begun their hurricane advance toward the northern border from the Lenikot and Shingel areas in co-ordination with the Ito and Okamoto Units that has thrust into India from Kabow, with the Indian National Army leading the way. They are now striking terror into the Anglo-American forces commanded by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief for Southeast Asia, by their threat of breaking through the border into India.

Chatterji Is Named For Administration Of Azad Hind Areas

(Continued From Page 1)

movement.

Similarity Seen

The points included, 1. Sabotage of schools; 2. Resignation of government officials; 3. Non-payment of taxes; 4. Strikes and destruction of military goods and communications; 5. Non-cooperation of Indian soldiers in the British Army.

With Subhas Bose's principles showing similarity to these five points, it is easily presumed that the disobedience movement in India will be intensified with the advance of the Indian National Army and Japanese Forces into India.

The declaration of the Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, therefore, calls for the carrying out of plans of the Indian National Congress and the harvesting of the fruit of Gandhi's disobedience movement.

In his statement, Subhas Bose emphasized that Indian compatriots need fear nothing as long as they do not assist the anti-Axis.

He also said that the Provisional Government of Free India will take over the administration of liberated districts thus assuring the Indian people of complete independence and liberation.

This guarantee may be said to be the fundamental conception for the construction of India for Indians.

In order not to cause any undue sacrifice to the Indian people, Subhas Bose in his statement advised Indian compatriots to evacuate from the areas around enemy airfields, army barracks, military plants, ports, harbors and military establishments.

This clearly illustrates that the present campaign carried on jointly by the Japanese and Indian National Army forces is for the complete annihilation of British and American forces in India, as well as the liberation of the people of India.

INTENSE FIGHTING IN TARNOPOL AREA

Red Army Launches Heavy Attack to Support Units Driving Toward Dniester River

Special

BERLIN, March 22.—A report at noon today of the action on the Eastern front said that the fighting in the southern sector was at present characterized by a great Soviet flanking attack based on the Tarnopol-Proskurov area, moving in support of the Soviet forces driving in the direction of the Dniester River. Strong Soviet formations east of Tarnopol were endeavoring, by swerving south, to come to the assistance of the Soviet army group operating from a base on the middle part of the Bug River.

Soviet movements were held up and blocked in the Proskurov area but near Tarnopol the Soviet forces were reported to have succeeded in making penetrations in a southerly direction. Heavy fighting was going on around the points of penetration, in the course of which the town of Smerinka, which consisted only of ruins, was abandoned by the German forces after all military installations had been destroyed.

Soviet attacks on the lower part of the Bug were repulsed. The Soviet bridgeheads at Novo and Odessa were narrowed down still more. In the Bordy and Kovel sector all Soviet attempts to gain ground toward the west in the direction of Lemberg were repelled after heavy fighting.

South of Pripet all local Soviet attacks broke down.

The fighting southeast of Vitebsk was continually increasing in intensity, with several divisions again being brought into action by the Soviet forces. In the course of the fighting the German forces destroyed 20 Soviet tanks.

In the northern sector of the Eastern front and at Narva the intensity of the Soviet attacks decreased.

Australia Refuses To Assist Britain

(Continued From Page 1)

more men could be made available for food production."

Customs Minister Keane, replying to another question in the Senate, said that rations in Australia were fixed according to the advice of nutrition advisers and that it would be illogical to reduce rations voluntarily until circumstances demanded.

Today Senator Mcleay presented a petition urging immediate action be taken to send a larger proportion of Australian food to Britain. He pointed out that in all sections of Great Britain people were working under intense strain and had for four years suffered untold hardships under exacting climate and conditions. He said, "We fear that unless further food, particularly butter and meat, is sent to them their physical and mental well-being will suffer and with it their power to resist our common enemy. We in Australia have publicly promised to assist the people of Great Britain to the limit of our capacity but we are consuming more food, particularly butter and meat, than is essential for the health of the community." He futher said that while Britain was dying for meat and butter, and while shipping was available, Australia was falling down on her job on the food production front through inefficient handling of the manpower problem.

Battle for Cassino Continues to Rage In Germany's Favor

(Continued From Page 1)

Roman tunnels running under the town. It said that the Germans were reinforcing their troops in the Hotel Continental and behind the anti-Axis lines in this manner. The dispatch said that German guns "continue to dominate Highway 6 traversing Cassino" and that anti-Axis troops were "holding tenaciously" to a small plateau on the slopes of the monastery hill.

Japanese Submarine Sinks 'Liberty' Ship Owned by Chungking

Domei

CANTON, March 22.—The Chungcheng, one of the two vessels of the Liberty type which were transferred to Chungking by America last year, was recently sunk by a Japanese submarine while navigating from America toward the Indian Ocean, according to a Chungking broadcast. It is further reported that the sunken vessel was given the name of Chungcheng, the real name of Chiang Kai-shek, which is his courtesy name.

Foe Admits Entry Of Japanese Units

(Continued From Page 1)

Harold Alexander following its defeat in Burma the year before last.

Further Invasion Expected

Domei

CANTON, March 23.—Seriously shocked by the rapid developments of the war situation on the Indo-Burmese border front, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in Southeastern Asia, and General Claude John Eyre Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of the British-Indian Army, yesterday warned that more and more Japanese Forces will drive into India with increased intensity, according to Indian broadcasts intercepted here.

Admiral Mountbatten, in a statement issued yesterday, declared:

"The Japanese have entered Indian territory. The enemy will advance westward with greater strength. At this juncture, the Indian people must keep keen watch on the developments of the war situation."

Enemy Confused

Domei

LISBON, March 22.—As was admitted by the anti-Axis headquarters in Southeastern Asia in its war communique issued today, the entry of the Japanese Army into Indian territory is said to have caused consternation among the British-Indian army authorities.

Frantic over the defensive measures, the headquarters today ordered the Anglo-Indian army to organize a defensive position in the Imphal district and the latter is reported to have planned to meet the offensive of the Japanese troops, now entered into India from three directions, according to a dispatch from a Reuter war correspondent from the front.

It is also reported that self-defense corps have been organized in towns and villages in Assam Province in order to guard the roadways and railways.

Predicting that the Japanese will continue to make intense attacks, General Auchinleck, in his speech on the war situation made yesterday at the Central Legislative Council, warned as follows:

"In December, last year, I declared in this Council that the Japanese Forces would march into India. The recent Japanese offensive has been anticipated in view of the prevailing war situation.

"The objective of the present Japanese drive is to disturb our rear with large troops. As the enemy is firmly determined to execute his plans, he will probably continue his attacks vigorously. It is up to us to check the enemy moves by offensive operations of the air force."

Sato of S.M.R. to Quit

Domei

HSINKING, March 23.—Ojiro Sato, vice-president of the South Manchuria Railway Company, will retire from his post upon expiration of his term of office on March 29.

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PAPERS IN FINLAND BACK GOVERNMENT

Say Continuance of War at Side Of Reich Is Only Way for Nation to Survive

Special

LISBON, March 22.—The Soviet Union's attempt to force its armistice conditions on Finland was directed only against Finland but, at the same time, it was addressed to all States allied with Germany, is the unanimous view of political circles in the Rumanian capital, according to a report from Bucharest.

The Finnish press on Wednesday showed its full appreciation of its Government's attitude. The Viatza said, "Finland's rejection did not surprise any one because the attitude of the Finnish people and the Government clearly showed that there could have been no other decision for Finland unless she wanted to commit suicide."

The paper pointed out that "Germany's wise and reserved attitude in this matter proved that she was fully confident in her ally. The anti-Axis groups who had already made preparations to represent weak Finland as a praiseworthy example to the other allies of Germany must have been disappointed bitterly.

"Finland, however, has learned a different lesson from the Soviet's attitude toward her—namely, that there was only one way for Finland to follow—continuation of the war at the side of her old ally."

Ridicules U.S. Attempt

Domei

BERLIN, March 21.—The United States is said to have offered peace terms to Rumania in the belief that that country was ready for their acceptance, according to reports received here.

However, the Rumanian newspaper, Curental, on March 19, ridiculed America's "diplomatic sweet talk" in its editorial which expressed the following view:

"The United States should be aware of the fact that the greatest problem confronting the people of Europe today is the war against Bolshevism."

Reich Troops Take Posts in Hungary

(Continued From Page 1)

merce and Communications, Antal Kunder; Minister of Agriculture and Supply, Bela Kunder; Minister of Justice and Provisional Minister of Church Affairs and Education, Istvan Antal; Defense Minister, Lajos Csatay.

The official communique further announced that the "two allied Governments are agreed that the measures taken will help Hungary to mobilize her entire resources for final victory in the common cause in the spirit of old friendship and comradeship-in-arms of the Hungarian and German peoples."

Phone Line Cut

Domei

ZURICH, March 20.—Telephone connection between Switzerland and Hungary have been interrupted since March 19.

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22 Leading Officials Of China, Mengchiang Granted Decorations

Twenty two men, all holders of high positions in the National Government of China and the Federated Autonomous Government of Mongolia were presented high Japanese decorations in recognition of their distinguished services rendered toward the promotion of friendship between Japan and China and between Japan and Mongolia or toward the conduct of military operations common to Japan and China, it was announced on Thursday. Mei Ssu-ping, Minister for Home Affairs of the National Government of China and seven others were presented with the First Class Order of the Sacred Treasure and Lin Pai-heng, Minister of Publicity of the National Government of China and 13 others with the Second Class Order of the Double-Rayed Rising Sun.

LUFTWAFFE CARRIES OUT ANOTHER LONDON ATTACK

Long Range German Guns Commence Bombardment of British Mainland

Domei

BERLIN, March 22.—Powerful bomber plane formations of the Luftwaffe carried out another raid on London at 1 a.m. today, dropping many explosive and incendiary bombs on selected targets, the German military authorities announced today.

British Mainland Shelled

Domei

BERLIN, March 22.—Long-range German guns on the French coast bombarded the British mainland last night, German military authorities announced today.

The first German shell was fired at 11:30 p.m. and the British guns returned fire, the communique added.

In the battle which lasted for about one hour, the Germans succeeded in silencing the British guns, the announcement concluded.

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Malai
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Sumatra
Bencoolen, Bukit-Tingi, Djambi, Kota-Raja, Lho-Seumawe, Medan, Padang, Pakanbaroe, Palembang, Pangkal-Pinang, [illegible], Siantar, Sibolga, Telok-Betong.

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TO DO OR DIE IS AIM OF AZAD HIND ARMY

Leaders Express Resolve Not To Rest Until Tricolor Flag Flies Over Delhi

Domei

AT AN X X BASE ON THE BURMA FRONT, March 21.—Victory or death in the struggle for the freedom of India was the keynote of the sentiments expressed by commanding officers of the Indian National Army at an informal gathering held here today on the occasion of the visit of Colonel K of the Japanese Army.

The Indian National Army which thrust into Indian territory across the Burmese border, its tricolor standard waving in the breeze, is now at the height of fighting morale and its advance toward Delhi is progressing with the momentum of a tidal wave. Crack units upon crack units are continuing to pour into their mother country for the historic campaign to wrest back Indian independence and freedom from the hands of their oppressors.

Colonel K of the Japanese Army paid a visit to the Indian National Army base here today and leaders of the Indians gathered to express their sentiments on this the most glorious march ever undertaken by Indians.

Said Lieutenant-Colonel K, commander of the X X Unit of the Indian National Army: "No matter what difficulties lie before us, Indian independence will be achieved so far as the Indian National Army is concerned. I feel perfectly justified in saying that the Indian National Army is a full-fledged army. Technically there may be some shortcomings, but these can be amply covered by the spirit of self-sacrifice and our conviction of victory. Our policy is: 'Deeds not words', if we are to put our sentiments in a nutshell, all we can say is: 'We will do our best'."

Lieutenant-Colonel K, commander of Unit No. X X: "We can be proud on three points: That our aim is lofty, that our leader is one of the greatest leaders in existence and that each one of us is irrevocably committed to victory or death. We advance on Delhi bearing in mind these three things. Every man of the Indian National Army is determined to enter Delhi even if he should be the only surviving soldier to do so. Even if we should be killed, our faces will be turned toward Delhi."

Major M, commander on the Arakan front: "Our movement is favored both by self-confidence and environment. India, after we have gained independence, will be one of the greatest countries in the world. We enjoy the advantage of working with the matchless Japanese Army. Thus our campaign cannot but succeed. I fought shoulder to shoulder with Japanese soldiers and I was struck with amazement by their valor and who fight in disregard of all material disadvantages. We must turn our eyes straight toward India and expel all British influence from Indian soil. Mere talk from outside the border gets us nowhere. Whatever we have to do, let us do within the borders of India. Such is the motive of our drive into India."

Lieutenant-Colonel B. Prince of Chitral, India, and commander of the XX Unit of the Indian National Army: "Many of my men are fighting on the firing lines. I regret to say that I have not yet had an opportunity of taking the field in person. We glory in the fact that we are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Japanese Army which has never known defeat in all its long history. It will be a splendid death for us if we could die among the first to lay down their lives for the freedom of our mother country. The Japanese and Indian Armies are fighting as allies for a common cause and on the battlefield our bloods intermingle and thus is born true comradeship. My blood vessels are now pulsating with hatred for the enemy. About two years ago I declared that if I had two divisions of the Indian National Army I should be able to overthrow British rule in India. This conviction of mine has been confirmed by recent events."

Major S, a staff officer of the Indian National Army:

"Now, at last, we are fighting our enemy with our own bullets and our own steel. We can now use bombs against the enemy's bombs. We have only two alternatives, to advance on Delhi or die in the attempt. We need not consider any third path. Until we have thrown the British into prisoners' camps and hoisted the tricolor flag over the enemy's last stronghold, we shall fight on."

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NEAR SUKIYABASHI TRAM CROSSING

Tight Defense Setup Maintained By Nippon Airmen in Pacific Area

Attacks on Lonely Isle Usually End in Enemy Jettisoning Bombs Into the Sea After Being Routed by Japanese

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC.—Fearlessly intercepting enemy air attacks repeated day and night, the Japanese Army Air Units stationed on a lonely island in the South Pacific are tightly defending their position, determined to crush the enemy's counter-offensive.

With the spreading of the battle zone over a 3,000 kilometer area, enemy counter-offensive has been increased in violence. In the midst of the roar of planes, the rattle of machine guns and the thunderous explosions of bombs, the Japanese airmen on this island are daily taking up the enemy's challenge.

With grim tenacity enemy planes appear over the island, in formations of 20 or more in the daytime and in groups of twos or threes during the night, flying at a high altitude. In the night attacks enemy planes drop their bombs at random and the Japanese airmen, accustomed to such enemy maneuvers, ignore the blind bombings.

On moonlit nights enemy planes usually attempt to locate the Japanese airfield on the island, but they usually fail and are forced to drop their bombs at random—usually into the sea. On one occasion, someone remarked: "These fellows must be mad! They come as far as this island only to drop bombs into the sea. Upon returning to the base, they will probably report that they have shot down five or more Japanese planes." At this, his comrades burst into laughter.

It is customary for the enemy to appear on bright moonlight nights. When they do not encounter the Japanese planes, they take it for granted that the island is devoid of Japanese fighter planes. Upon the heels of night attacks, enemy planes usually appear in the day time in a formation of 30 or more four-engined bombers.

One day an enemy formation of 26 B-24's appeared near the island. Immediately, the order to take off was issued. A busy scene was witnessed at the base. The Unit under the command of Captain A. took off on its mission of guarding the base, while another Unit led by Captain T. roared away in the direction of the enemy.

According to the minute-by-minute reports, it seemed that the enemy planes were attempting to assault the Japanese base from two directions. The roar of planes became audible. In the air, a violent combat commenced with the Japanese planes closing in on the enemy four-engined bombers. Enveloped in a net of machine-gun fire, the Japanese fighter planes were seen furiously repulsing the enemy.

Quite unexpectedly, however, the enemy planes which had appproached the shore turned back, evidently realizing the impossibility of piercing the tight net of defense maintained by the Japanese.

The enemy airmen then began to jettison their bombs. Taking advantage of the foe's confusion, the Japanese Unit commanded by Captain A. pounced upon the enemy planes, machine-gunning the latter from a high altitude. Some of the enemy planes began to spurt smoke.

By the time the planes which had approached the island from the east had taken to their heels, upon realizing the futility of further attempts, the other group of fighters had appeared over the shore. However, the latter took flight immediately. Thus, this aerial operation came to an end after 20 minutes of severe fighting. The combat was waged at a point some ten kilometers off the island.

In the meantime, our planes began to return to the base. Waving their caps, the ground crew and others at the base greeted their returning comrades.

After all the planes had returned, one of the ground crew said: "One is missing."

At that, Captain A. approached him saying sympathetically: "The plane piloted by Lieutenant T. and Sergeant S. crashed itself against an enemy bomber over the waters some 200 kilometers off this island. Both our plane and the enemy's were enveloped in flames as they plunged into the water."

LAUREL ENDS 3-DAY TOUR

Is Pleased With Conditions in Mindanao, Visayan Areas

Domei

MANILA, March 21.—President Jose P. Laurel returned here today after a successful three-day inspection tour of the Mindanao and Visayan areas. In this connection, the Board of Information made the following announcement:

"During his inspection tour of the Mindanao and Visayan areas, President Laurel conferred with Government officials and members of the police corps and exhorted them to cooperate further with the Government. The President is satisfied with the conditions of peace and order and of the foodstuffs supply setup in these areas."

MAKE FREEDOM PLEDGE

Newly-Wed Indian Couple Part to Join Bose's Forces

Domei

TAIPING, March 22.—A newly-married local Indian couple, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Vadivelu, recently dedicated themselves to the cause of freeing their motherland from British bondage.

Before departing to join the Rani of Jharsi Regiment, the young bride said, "I feel extremely proud that I have been given this rare opportunity of serving my motherland along with thousands of my sisters."

Her husband has also left to join the Indian National Army.

Bolstering of Local P.I. Industries Pushed By Kalibapi as One Step Toward Prosperity

Domei

MANILA, March 21.—Cognizant of the fact that almost every town and province or locality in the Philippines has the possibilities of becoming noted for a particular line in industry or agriculture, the Kalibapi is encouraging the fostering of these industries with a view to intensifying them, thus enabling them to contribute to a greater extent to the nation-wide food production self-sufficiency campaign.

At a recent meeting of the Kalibapi's Executive Staff, Acting-Director-General Camilo Osias emphasized the importance of studying conditions and obtaining in every locality a particular industry which is adaptable to local conditions.

Mr. Osias also stressed the need for intensification of industries peculiar to respective localities for the next five or 10 years.

"Thus, we would be laying the foundation not only for increased prosperity in the country, but also for commercial relations between towns and between provinces. It is only in some such way of stepping up production industrially as well as agriculturally that we will become prosperous as a nation. In a wider sense, we should be contributing to, instead of depending upon other countries of Greater East Asia," he declared.

Mr. Osias pointed out that the following places are well known for their special products: Calibo in Capiz Province for cloth; Lucban in Tayabas Province, Calasiao in Pangasinan Province and Baliwag in Bulacan Province for hats; Ilocos Province for textiles, Batangas Province for horses, citrus fruits, and coffee; Semar Province for mats; Iloilo Province for pina cloth; Negros and Pampanga provinces for sugar; The Davao, Leyte and Bicol regions for hemp, and Estancia for fish.

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NETAJI BOSE PROUD OF AZAD HIND ARMY

Two Aims: To Extend Strategic Advantages and Reconstruct Freed Areas

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, March 22.—The far-reaching effects of the break-through carried out by the Indian National Army into Indian territory across the Burmese border will be made manifest by events more eloquent than words, Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army, declared at a press conference here yesterday after issuing the historic statement announcing the break-through.

"What were your sentiments as you effected the break-through across the border?" Mr. Bose was asked.

"We, Indian National Army men felt deeply elated to set foot into Indian territory, our own mother country," Mr. Bose replied. "At the same time, we keenly realized our grave responsibility to shatter Anglo-American power. Although the area is still small, we have for the first time since 1857 driven out the enemy by the strength of our own arms. This is an historic event that should be recorded for all time."

"What is the significance, in your opinion, of the border break-through?"

"The British had been boasting, although they had been defeated almost on every front throughout the world, that so long as India was concerned they would never relinquish her. Yet no sooner had we begun operating, they have been defeated before our very eyes. Thus our break-through shows that Britain has lost even the strength to defend her Indian foothold."

"What do you think will be the effect on sepoys and the Indian people in general?"

The actual effects will no doubt be manifest some days from now. The Indians who had not yet been aware of our movement must now become very much alive to it. More and more sepoys will join us without a doubt. The people of India will realize that their defeatist idea that Britain cannot be beaten has merely been an illusion created by the British. We shall not indulge in any blatant propaganda such as the British are past-master in. We shall only appeal to the facts as they develop."

"What is the program for the independence movement now that you have entered Indian territory?"

"We have two duties to fulfil hereafter. The first is to extend the strategic advantages we have already secured. The second is to reconstruct the liberated areas and establish a provisional government there for the exercise of ideal administration. This is bound to exert far-reaching effects on the areas of India which have not yet been liberated."

"What do you think will be the attitude of the British Government toward India hereafter?"

"They will no doubt reinforce their armed strength against the areas we have liberated, spread their malicious propaganda against Japan and increase their oppression of India."

"What of the effects on Chung-king?"

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East Asia Round-Up

'Passion Play' Is Slated

Domei

MANILA, March 23.—With Easter only three weeks away, tickets for "Martier sa Golo" (Passion Play), which will be opened on April 1, have been placed on sale. The Passion Play last year, given in Tagalog for the first time, proved exceedingly popular.

Will Fight to Last

Special

SHONAN, March 23.—Every soldier of the Azad Hind Fauj considers it his duty to fight to the last for the freedom of India, declared Lieutenant-Colonel G. R. Naggar, Acting Chief of Staff attached to the Rear Headquarters of the Indian National Army, at the mass meeting held here on Thursday commemorating the establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India.

Movie Houses to Donate

Domei

MANILA, March 23.—All 58 movie houses in Manila as well as others in the suburbs will turn in their entire day's gross receipts on March 29 as their contribution to the Philippine Red Cross.

Nanking Holds Service

Special

NANKING, March 23.—In commemoration of the death anniversary of the martyr Tseng Changming, who was assassinated five years ago, a solemn memorial service was held here, Thursday, attended by 800 persons including Government officials and representatives of the Kuomintang.

Enlarges Police Force

Domei

MANILA, March 23.—Manila's police force will be further enlarged this week when additional 150 policemen will be inducted into the Metropolitan Constabulary. The new law officers recently graduated from the Constabulary Training Academy and at present are undergoing a special training course.

Cebu Opens League Branch

Domei

CEBU, March 22.—On the occasion of the anniversary of the establishment of the Provisional Government of the Azad Hind last evening, the Cebu branch of the India Independence League was opened here in the presence of representatives of Indian residents.

COOPERATION SEEN VITAL TO DEVELOP NORTH CHINA

Manchoukuo, Mengchiang and China Urged to Work Together To Increase Fighting Power

Domei

HSINKING, March 22.—"Cooperative activities among Manchoukuo, China and Mengchiang in developing natural resources and in establishing industrial facilities are vital for the augmentation of fighting strength." Tatsunosuke Takasaki, President of the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation, remarked upon returning from an inspection tour of North China and Mengchiang today.

Mr. Takasaki commented, as follows:

"Regardless of territorial boundaries, Manchoukuo, China and Mengchiang are bound to cooperate with one another to supply manpower and material resources to augment fighting power. In the course of a conference with the government authorities there, I submitted two or three practical measures for the development of heavy industries. In the near future they will be translated into action.

"While traveling through North China and Mengchiang, I came to realize that cooperation was essential in order to establish the necessary installations for increased production as well as to set up transportation facilities on the East Asiatic continent."

king?"

"On my way home from the Assembly of Greater East-Asiatic Nations in Tokyo, I broadcast a speech in China addressed to Chungking. In this speech I said: 'Forget the past and face realities. Conclude peace with Japan and abandon the struggle against a nation of the same race.' This happened to be at the time when the United States and Britain were holding the Cairo Conference at which they were doing their best to get into the good graces of Chungking, so that my appeal didn't register with the complacent Chungkingites. But today, with the United States and Britain facing the necessity of abandoning even their counter-offensive on Burma they are in no position to aid Chungking. Thus Chungking cannot but be seriously affected by this new development. With the progress of this campaign, even the anti-Axis leaders in the Chungking camp will no doubt be compelled to reconsider their attitude."

Italians Here Fete 25th Anniversary Of Fascist Party

The 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Italian Fascist Party was celebrated on Thursday by the holding of a meeting at the Italian Cultural Association Hall in Tokyo. Italians residing in Tokyo attended the meeting which was under the chairmanship of Colonel Omero Principini, Protector of Italian Interests in Japan. Many Japanese and German friends of the Party were also present. The meeting provided the opportunity for the creation of a marine department in the Tokyo Office of the Italian Fascist Party.

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SAWADA PRAISES AZAD HIND ARMY

Ambassador Hopes for Early Expulsion of America and Britain in Statement

Domei

RANGOON, March 23.—Renzo Sawada, Japanese Ambassador to Burma, in a statement issued on March 21, congratulated the Indian National Army on its successful drive into Indian territory and expressed his hearty wishes for its future success.

His statement follows:

"Whereas the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, determined to liberate India, is forging ahead for the realization of its noble mission under the inspiring leadership of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Japan, on the establishment of the same Government, promised to extend all-out support to it.

"Following up the brilliant war results achieved in the Akyab sector, the Indian National Army has now crossed the Indo-Burmese border with the cooperation of the Japanese Forces and has marched into India. This is indeed an epoch-making event.

"We earnestly wish that with the fervent support of the Indian people as well as of Japan and other East Asiatic nations, the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and the Indian National Army will succeed in driving out our common enemies, America and Britain, from Indian territory, realize the long-cherished hope of freedom and thus contribute to the progress of mankind."

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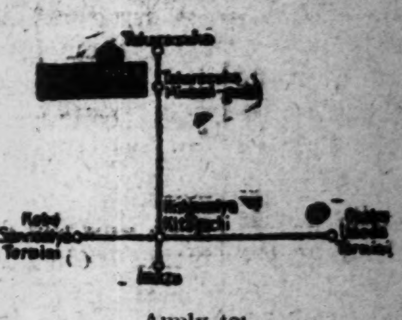

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TOKYO, FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1944

The Smile of Final Victory

Prime Minister Hideki Tojo's address before the House of Representatives Wednesday upon the reconvening of the Imperial Diet after its recess reflects the strengthened unity with which the nation is successfully meeting the exigencies of the present war situation. Although but a mere month has elapsed since his last report to the Diet, the Prime Minister was able to report that far-reaching measures have been instituted in the interim. Decisive emergency measures have already been put into operation, complete organic unity has been effected between command and administration in the military and naval services, plans are proceeding apace for the launching of a powerful national movement to coordinate the activities of the people for the supreme object of winning the war.

In this latter matter of a popular national movement, it was already apparent in the Diet before its recent recess that the people themselves were burning with desire and determination to do far more than they had yet been called on to do. An organized national movement was necessary not to whip up the spirit but to coordinate along practical lines the spirit which was already existing in abundance. In the month during the Diet's recess, the Government has had the opportunity to work out with the various people's organizations the specific plans for the direction of this movement, and hence was it possible for the Prime Minister to state Wednesday that "the Government will give the fullest measure of cooperation in the conduct of this movement of which it has reasons to hope great things." The result can only be a still more phenomenal increase over the past increase which has already been so remarkable--in the stimulation of the fighting spirit, in the extension and strengthening of production, in increasing the security of the supply of foodstuffs, and in defending the country.

In the light of this vigorous support which the whole nation is according to the Government, it is no wonder that the Prime Minister was moved to declare: "I am profoundly impressed by this spirit of the people and by the manner in which they are overcoming their difficulties, and I gain no end of encouragement from contemplating them. It is by surmounting the host of difficulties confronting us that I have a firm conviction we may be certain of opening up the way to certain victory."

Truly the difficulties attendant upon such a great war as the present one may be formidable, but the Japanese nation is equal to any ordeal, as the remarkable achievements constantly being attained at the foremost lines and on the home front amply demonstrate. In view of such demonstrations, well did the Prime Minister conclude that "final victory cannot fail to smile upon us"!

The Advance Into India

News has come that the Indian National Army under its inspiring leader Subhas Chandra Bose, together with the Imperial Japanese Forces, has crossed the Indo-Burmese border to step foot on the very homeland of India itself. The historic march to New Delhi has started; the crusade for India's liberation has moved one step nearer its goal. No one imagines, of course, that the penetration of a portion of the one province of Manipur means anything more than the merest first step in a long and bloody march to come, but at least the first step has been taken on Indian soil, and no one can minimise the symbolic significance of this memorable event. It is a vindication of the long years of patient and heart-rending preparation; and it is a harbinger of the glorious triumph which is now at last on the way.

The news does not come as a surprise, for with the start early in February of the joint operations of the Japanese Army and the Indian National Army, all supporters of Asiatic freedom had been eagerly awaiting the day when the fighting men of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind would carry into their motherland their fight against the British oppressors of their country. That day has now come, and although many are the trials and setbacks which may yet intervene before final victory is won, this day when the liberators of India first set foot on Indian soil will go down in history as a monumental landmark to inspire Indian patriotism for all time to come.

At no time previously in the century-old independence movement has the goal loomed so near as it has come today. Robbed of all their weapons, their leaders imprisoned, their slightest activities suppressed, the Indians have never in the past been able to make their real power felt. Although their indomitable spirit and courage have kept ever alive their unextinguishable desire for independence, the Indian people lacked the force of arms which alone could overthrow the British tyrants who themselves based their control on force of arms.

But the necessary force of arms is now in possession of the advocates of Indian independence. Ever since last July when the three million Indians living in the liberated parts of East Asia united under the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and created the Indian National Army, thus taking the first great step forward in history toward the arming of the Indian people, India's independence movement left the sphere of futile, passive resistance—what good was passive resistance against unfeeling, cold-blooded masters like the British to whom the lives of alien races meant nothing? —and strode into the field of actual armed action to give first concrete hope of attainment to India's struggle for freedom. Now with the Azad Hind Fauj actually fighting, and fighting successfully, on Indian soil and with the fact becoming known to the Indians inside India, the effect that it will have on the people of India is once clear. An Indian army is on the march, actually fighting on Indian soil for the liberation of its motherland, proving to the Indians at home and the world at large that adequately armed and with a cause to fight for, the Indians are powerful and that Indian independence is moving increasingly nearer realization.

With the possession of India being vital to the continuance of Britain as a world power, the British of course will naturally exert their greatest, most desperate efforts to maintain their hold on what they call with such callous lack of compunction, the "Brightest Jewel in the British Crown." The action of the Indian National Army, however, and the repercussions that it will have inside India is the hand-writing on the wall for the British. The day is coming when India will be free, when the Indians will be able to enjoy the wealth of their own land, a land of plenty where today they are denied that enjoyment by the British usurpers.

As Prime Minister Hideki Tojo has declared, Japan will spare no efforts in extending all possible assistance and support to this cause of Indian independence. All the territories which the Japanese Forces help the Indian National Army to liberate will be placed immediately under the administration of the Provisional Government of Free India, for Japan's object is to crush the enemy influence and to leave India completely in the hands of the Indian people. Japan rejoices in this now rapidly unfolding development, for the cause of India is the cause of all fellow Asiatics.

The bright ray of hope lighting the future of the Indian independence movement also signifies the bright future lying ahead in the War of Greater East Asia as a whole, for the war is being fought for the liberation of all East Asia from the common enemy. The nearer India moves toward freedom, the nearer approaches the goal of all the united Asiatic peoples in this war for East Asia's liberation.

A Year Ago Today

March 24, 1943

A violent collision occurred in Wassam, French Morocco, between the native inhabitants and the American troops stationed there, resulting in the lynching of seven American soldiers. The seven U.S. servicemen were lynched by the enraged mass of native inhabitants in vengeance of the deaths of 24 Mohammedans killed by the American soldiers who brutally fired upon them.

* * *

Discussing the question of utilization of manpower resources, Premier Peter Fraser of New Zealand pointed out the urgency of adjusting the domestic structure and awakening the people to cooperate with the government.

* * *

The Governor of Colorado notified the United States Recruiting Bureau that he had ordered the suspension of taking in farmers for military service as the losses of hands above those already recruited will hinder the agricultural industry of the state from attaining its wartime objective.

Japan-Thai Cooperation

Opinions of Experts Illustrate Close Economic Ties Between Empire and Thailand

Editor's Note: As an integral member of the Common Prosperity Region, the position of Thailand is becoming increasingly important. A discussion on the subject of Japan- Thai Economic Cooperation was sponsored at Bangkok under the auspices of the Keizai Mainichi with experts expressing their opinions, illustrating closer economic ties between the two countries. The discussion was attended by following persons:

Katsumi Niiro, Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy, Bangkok
Hirosaburo Mori, Branch Manager of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha
Jiro Baba, Branch Manager of Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha
Mitsugu Nishimaki, Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank
Eiichi Yasuda, Bangkok Head of the Sempaku Un-ei Kai
Hidefumi Kagawa, Branch Manager of the Toyo Menka Kaisha

Mr. Niiro: The Japan-Thai Treaty of Alliance stipulates that in the event of hostilities the signatories pledge mutual assistance, not only politically and economically but militarily. Accordingly, Thailand, following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, has been shipping rice to Japan as well as collaborating in every field of economic endeavor, while Japan, on the other hand, despite wartime difficulties, is extending all possible assistance.

The Anglo-American powers had, in former times, turned Thailand into their quasi-colony, extracting from her needed raw materials and forcing their manufactured goods on her market. They also adopted the policy of checking any industrial development of Thailand. Prior to the war, for example, Thailand encountered heavy Anglo-American pressure when she mapped out a plan for the development of her petroleum industry. On this occasion, it will be recalled that Japan, by extending wholehearted aid, made possible the establishment of Thailand's petroleum industry.

Despite various difficulties in wartime, such as inadequate shipping facilities, etc., Japan is doing her utmost to lend every assistance, supplying, among other things, cotton cloth, sugar and quinine. Thailand will soon see the birth of many new industries, including rubber, textile and others, which is in no small measure, due to Japanese industrial collaboration.

Even in the field of agriculture, the Anglo-Americans not only attempted to obstruct the cultivation of any product likely to compete with their own, but extended their pressure to reduce the efficiency of industries already flourishing. As a result of the British exploitation policy, Thailand today—unlike in the past—finds herself with insufficient cotton and sugar. But Japan sincerely desiring close collaboration within the Greater East Asia Common Prosperity Region for its economic development, has supplied Thailand with seeds for rice, wheat, vegetables, etc., and have, without any reservation, offered technical knowledge, acquired through years of experience and experimentation, for the expansion of her industries. This present war being a total war in which the economic aspect is extremely vital, I desire to express my hope that steps be adopted by those responsible to further tighten the economic bonds between Japan and Thailand, thereby contributing to the prosecution of the righteous war and the welfare of Greater East Asia.

First Joint Undertaking

Keizai Mainichi Representative: Mr. Mori, could you tell us about the rubber industry in which your Mitsui Company seems to have so much interest?

Mr. Mori: Back in August of 1939, a plan was drawn up for the establishment of a rubber company to be owned jointly by Japanese and Thais. Incidentally, this company is the first Japan-Thailand joint enterprise.

At the time, Anglo-American influence in Thailand was very strong, and the country was politically and economically dependent on America and Britain. Thus it was unimaginable that the Thai Government would agree with Japanese to a fifty-fifty capitalized rubber company. Because the Thai capital, as a rule, had always been over 51 per cent, I believe that this unprecedented agreement to this equal capitalization is politically significant.

The company was established in Bangkok on May 17, 1941. Since the groundwork for this enterprise had been unduly postponed, coupled with the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, and subsequent lack of requisite shipping space, the shipment of machinery from Japan had to be temporarily suspended. However, thanks to the great assistance rendered by the local military and civil authorities, part of the machinery has already been shipped, and with their expected arrival, work will begin some time during the first half of 1944. The firm is known as the Thai Rubber Joint Stock Company, capitalized at 1,000,000 Baht, the Thai Government holding half of the shares and the Japanese the other half. Half of the Japanese capital was footed by the Mitsui Bussan, the other half by the Japan Rubber Joint Stock Company. The enterprise handles the manufacture and selling of rubber articles, such as rubber shoes, automobile tires and bicycle tubes. The board of the company is composed of members from both countries.

Development of Resources

Keizai Mainichi Representative: Mr. Baba, could you tell us something of the agricultural enterprises undertaken by the Mitsubishi?

Mr. Baba: In the pre-war period, it was considered difficult to establish a Japan-Thai joint enterprise, but with the progress of the war I learn that, due to a better understanding of the righteous intentions of Japan, such undertakings have been gradually on the increase. Besides the Thai Rubber Joint Stock Company and the Japan-Thai Kaiun Company, I should like to mention two newer firms, the Thai Chemical Industrial Joint Stock Company and the Thai Textile Company.

Although there is a question as to what industry ought to be developed in Thailand, it is most important that the natural resources—agricultural, forestry, and mining—with which the country is richly endowed, should receive first consideration. Special circumstances do exist at the moment, but there is no anxiety whatever as regards supply of foodstuffs. If Thailand utilizes her natural resources, I believe that a good living standard can be more than maintained.

Concerning the development of agricultural resources, rice is naturally the most important. While forest products and metals only await felling or excavation, the case of a rice plant is different. It must be planted, improved and increased. Experiments along this line are not as yet up to date. If this field can be properly developed, it is possible to increase agricultural production to a great extent.

The first prerequisite is to come to a real close understanding with Thailand, which will lead to mutual help. The Thais are doing their best to provide Thai rice to Japan, the value of which cannot be overestimated. Along with Thai rice, the Thai Governmental offices are also doing much to assist Japan.

Sufficiency in Textiles

Keizai Mainichi Representative: Mr. Kagawa, will you give us some details of the recent joint textile company?

Mr. Kagawa: The question of joint management is not easy. When starting such an undertaking, it is advisable that the views of the other party be taken into careful consideration. By so doing, a friendly agreement is quickly reached. In wartime it is quite natural that Thailand, launching herself for the first time on a self-sufficiency economy following her complete break with foreign economic dependency, should today look to Japan for aid in finance, organization and technique. More so, when Thailand realizes the necessity of immediately promoting the growth of her home industry in order to meet the demands of daily necessities. That is the reason why the establishment of a joint concern is so smoothly effected.

Keizai Mainichi Representative: Could you give us some figures, that is in general terms the position which the jointly managed company will occupy in the Thai textile circles?

Mr. Kagawa: Even in the case of the textile company, the benefit which such jointly operated enterprises give to Thailand can be seen in the fact that 80 per cent of the textile required is expected to be met. When the various plans are put into operation, Thailand will experience a vast industrial renovation.

Pegging of Yen and Baht

Keizai Mainichi Representative: Mr. Nishimaki, what are your ideas on banking cooperation?

Mr. Nishimaki: Formerly the Thai currency, even the issuance of notes, were under British domination. Currency and national livelihood being so interlocked, as the loss of the reserve fund kept in England and the United States had a serious effect on the value of Thai money, the reorganization of the financial field was most urgent. To deal with this, a Japan-Thai Conference was held, and in April of 1942 the Yen was placed at par with the Baht, followed in May by the agreement that henceforth all settlement will be based on the Yen. As a result, not only was the position of the Yen currency in the Common Prosperity Region assured, but Thailand was rescued from financial disruption. It is at this stage, that the Japan-Thai Financial relations may be said to have been definitely established. In June the Japanese Yen was incorporated into the reserves of the Baht issues. Moreover, as reserve fund for issuing the Baht, Japan extended a loan of ¥200,000,000. At the same time, an agreement was reached between the Bank of Japan and the Thai Finance Ministry regarding the Yen settlement between Japan and Thailand. On July 4th Thailand promulgated the exchange control law, establishing a pool of exchange. By basing the settlements on the Japanese currency, Thailand became a financial member of the Common Prosperity Region. For her it was a great reform.

On December 10, 1942, the Central Bank was founded, giving Thailand control over her own banking. Although the results of the Central Bank's activities have not been published, it appears to be making satisfactory headway, and it is cooperating closely with our bank. As for banking in Thailand, there are a total of eight banks in Bangkok, both governmental and private. Apart from one Japanese bank, one French Indo-Chinese bank and two Chinese banks, the remainder are Thai. In the pre-war period, the Thai banks were under control of the Hongkong-Shanghai Banking Corporation, which along with other British-owned banks were closed after the war. In January of 1942 an emergency currency law was enacted. Previously, the banking capital had been furnished by the Hongkong-Shanghai Banking Corporation. Following the outbreak of the war, the authorities of Thailand, with assistance from Japan, have restored Thailand's financial position.

Wooden Ship Industry

Keizai Mainichi Representative: Mr. Yasuda, a word or two on the shipping aspect.

Mr. Yasuda:—First of all, we must fully realize the importance of Thailand's cooperation in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia. No sooner had war been declared than by concluding the Currency Agreement and the Japan-Thai Alliance, she contributed tremendously in military loans and shipping, railway facilities during the Burma campaigns as well as providing fodder for the army horses, etc. Thailand is determined to throw in all she has in the construction of Greater East Asia. It is hoped that this sentiment of cooperation should be further strengthened, but in order to accomplish this, it is vital, too, that the Japanese fully understand the standpoint of the Thais.

Before the war, the Thais, deciding to transport their own exports and import sugar, machinery, rubber, etc., in Thai bottoms, started a purely Thai company and ordered five vessels from America for this purpose. However, at the outset of the War of Greater East Asia the five vessels, en route, were either seized or sunk. Thailand still possesses no large shipping company. Thus, it has become necessary for the Thai shipping transportation to work in cooperation with Japanese shipping, which is now charged with the maritime transportation within Greater East Asia, and Thai officials are eagerly absorbed in the work. We must assist Thailand in realizing her sea-going transportation.

Next, concerning Government controlled wharfage. This wharf berths 13 or 14 ships of 5,000 to 6,000 tons, and proved invaluable during the Burma campaigns when it was used by Japanese military transports. The dredging of Triangular Bay is indispensable, and since the vicinity of the Menam River is generally shallow, a large proportion of the cargo must be loaded at Koh-sichang. The Thais have one dredger in action, and the Japanese authorities are collaborating in the program for the acceleration of the dredging operations of the Thai Government. At present, barges are mainly employed in loading cargo, and Thailand is doing everything to collaborate to assure this service. Furthermore, the Bangkok Docks, handling big repairs, are doing excellent work.

Regarding ocean transportation, I desire to emphasize the importance of repairing of ships. In the fishing industry the Japanese can do much to help Thailand. Another thing, the building of wooden ships is increasing. The vessels built from the bountiful supply of teak are sliding down the ways to augment the growing ocean-going traffic.

Fruits of Wisdom

Blessings on him who first invented sleep. It covers a man all over, thoughts and all, like a cloak. It is meat for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, heat for the cold, and cold for the hot. It makes the shepherd equal to the monarch, and the fool to the wise. There is but one evil in it, and that is that it resembles death, since between a dead man and a sleeping man there is but little difference.—Cervantes.

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Slander is a vice that strikes a double blow, wounding both him that commits, and him against whom it is committed.—Saurin.

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All that time is lost which might be better employed.—Rousseau.

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Our condition never satisfies us; the present is always the worst. Though Jupiter should grant his request to each, we should continue to importune him.—Fontaine.

The War of Propaganda

Enlightening Analysis Conducted on Methods Employed by Belligerent Countries

By SHINICHIRO KUDO
(From the Jitsugyo no Nippon)

All belligerents are now engrossed in the vigorous pursuit of their propaganda warfare, by the successful conduct of which they intend either to improve their strategical position or to lend greater weight to the results of battles. Propaganda warfare naturally centers around war news, and it is interesting to note that each belligerent country has a method of its own in conducting this particular form of warfare.

The fact is patent that the statements issued by the German High Command are reliable. The special care which the German authorities take in publishing these statements can be inferred from the fact that they are submitted to Fuehrer Hitler for revision before publication. During the fighting in Norway, in France, in the Balkans and on Crete Island, the anti-Axis camp kept on denying the accuracy of the communiques issued by the German High Command, but events invariably established the veracity of these announcements. Finding it impossible to keep up their attitude of systematic denial of German war reports any longer, the British military leaders had to admit that "German reports are comparatively accurate."

The German reports regarding the situation on the Easten front are also characteristically accurate. They do not hesitate to announce the withdrawals of Geman troops where they have taken place. Nor is any attempt made to gloss over any unfavorable turn of war events when it does occur. It is true that doubts are expressed in some quarters as to whether German reports do not err on the side of exaggeration in giving the amount of losses inflicted on the Soviet Army, but in view of the unprecedented scale on which the war is being fought, it is quite conceivable that the losses inflicted are actually so stupendous that they surpass all imagination. It would, therefore, be too hasty to conclude that German figures of Soviet losses are exaggerated in the absence of conclusive proofs, though it must be admitted that there is always room for some errors to creep in regarding the losses inflicted on the enemy's tanks and aircraft, as the exact extent of such damage is necessarily difficult to ascertain.

Are Remarkably Bold

The official war reports given out by the Soviet Union are remarkably bold and undisguised, as if reflecting the tough nerves of the Slav race and the peculiarity of the Soviet regime. They give quite astronomical figures in reference to the losses alleged to have been given the Germans, but at the same time they make nothing of publishing enormous figures regarding their own losses, a practice which is almost insupportable to anyone. For instance, an official announcement issued by the Soviet authorities in June last year put the total of the Soviets killed and taken prisoner during the preceding two years at 4,200,000. Concerning the war situation, the Soviet leaders sometimes publish with astounding frankness facts decidedly unfavorable to their side. This is obviously a device designed to obtain the speedy aid of America and Britain, and, as such, it fails under the same category as the tactics often resorted to by Chiang Kai-shek of uttering implied threats to America and Britain that he would surrender to Japan unless efficient aid was given him immediately. Anyway, such a feat would be impossible for any except the Soviet regime which keeps under its rigorous control a people who are peculiarly phlegmatic.

On the enemy's side, the British reports are comparatively reliable. So far as army reports are concerned, they made a very poor showing when the British army was suffering an unbroken series of defeats. The British army authorities were hard put to it to give this excuse or that for debacle on debacle that their troops suffered, only to make themselves the butt for derision even from the press of their own country. Concerning the doings of the air and naval forces, the statements published by the British authorities have been comparatively truthful. They were fairly prompt in their publication of the sinking of the Prince of Wales and of the results of the sea battles in Java waters and in the Indian Ocean. The facts they publish are, on the whole, well-founded; but such facts as they believe had better be kept secret, they seem inclined to withhold publication. Their policy is to win the confidence of the outside world by their candid publication of some unpalatable truths and then to presume on the foreign credulity thus gained by foisting egregious falsehoods on them to serve their propaganda purposes.

As regards America's war reports, it is a well-known fact that they are full of falsehoods—falsehoods so transparent that they cannot deceive the most credulous. The American authorities are so unscrupulous and untruthful that, not content with concealing the truth, they go the length of giving out as a victory what they know to be a defeat. They kept from the American public the particulars of the Pearl Harbor debacle for a year and when they found it difficult to keep them back any longer, they disclosed them with very bad grace. The method they adopt in making public war news is simply absurd. In reporting the sea battle in the Macassar Strait, they stated as though the Japanese convoys had been annihilated, but the day following the publication of this false report in America, the Japanese troops effected a landing on Borneo. In connection with the battle off Java also, a similarly spurious report was made public in America, only to be falsified by the event which followed quickly by the landing of Japanese troops in Java. According to them, America won in the Battle of the Coral Sea. They also asserted with as little veracity that in the battle off Midway Island, America won a victory unprecedented in the history of the world. Such egregious falsehoods on America's part not only provoke scorn and contempt from her adversaries but prove very embarrassing to her friends.

British Wax Sarcastic

One British journal sarcastically remarked that to read the American press one would imagine that America alone was fighting while Britain was asleep. Another British paper remarked, with equal sarcasm, that if Japan's naval losses given in American official reports are added up, the Japanese Navy must now be left without a single cruiser. In the Dieppe landing operations, only a handful of American troops took part and yet the New York journals reported under streaming headlines the "success of the American troops in landing on the European Continent in the face of the enemy fire." To the British troops who constituted the main force, not the slightest reference was made, to the indignation and disgust of the British people.

For this absurd method of propaganda the arrogant and conceited national characteristics of the American people may largely be made accountable, but it is also due to the fact that, not being used to warfare, the Americans get easily excited over the results of each battle. Another cause may be found in sensational journalism peculiar to America. The American press has the weakness of running mad after anything sensational and thrilling, and the American Government unconsciously panders to this vulgar tastes of the press. Just before the outbreak of the present war, a certain American Senator had the audacity of declaring that Japan could be reduced to ashes in three weeks. This glaring instance of playing to the gallery is a tragi-comedy born of America's sensational journalism.

The plethora of groundless war reports of victories let loose by the American authorities has deluded the American public into the fallacy that the war would end in victory for the anti-Axis side very soon, with the result that there was a decline in war production. Alarmed at this state of affairs of their own creation, the American authorities were obliged to modify their propaganda of falsehood to some extent, though they are still publishing many false reports daily.

Lastly, as regards the announcements made by the Japanese Imperial Headquarters, it is hardly necessary to say that they are distinguished for their strict truthfulness. The scrupulousness shown by the Japanese Imperial Headquarters in making public war reports is such that any errors found, on fuller information, in the estimate of losses previously given, are conscientiously corrected in later official statements. The Anglo-American authorities used to condemn Japanese war reports as full of lies, but in the face of many evidences proving their strict truthfulness up to the hilt, they are now obliged to give them more credence.

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

Harmlessness,
Truth,
Freedom from passion, anger and
greed,
Rendering each man his due,
Good-will unto all that lives:
These
Are the common duty of all the
kindreds of men:
These
Are the pathway of faith
Wherein tread the Wise and the
Good,
With those who are freed from
shifting caprice:
Such a faith
Is livingly known, deep in the
heart.